

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 098287

43

ORIGIN INR-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 A-01 PER-05

DODE-00 PRS-01 INRE-00 /039 R

DRAFTED BY INR: MPACKMAN

APPROVED BY INR: WGHYLAND

S/S - MR. FRY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 098287

TOSEC 527

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-82

TAGS: PO, MZ, MILI

SUBJECT: ATTACK ON AIRCRAFT CARRYING MILITARY ATTACHES

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF MESSAGE FROM DAO LISBON, DATED MAY 9, WHICH S/S WISHES PASSED TO UNDER SECRETARY SISCO:

2. QUOTE: PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE OFFICIAL CALLED ON AAIRA THIS MORNING TO GIVE DETAILS OF, AND APOLOGIZE FOR, THE 6 MAY 74 ATTACK ON PAF AIRCRAFT TRANSPORTING FOREIGN MILITARY ATTACHES OVER MOZAMBIQUE.

3. OFFICIAL STATED THAT VISITING LISBON BASED ATTACHES WERE FLYING FROM NANGADE TO ANMPULA IN MOZAMBIQUE, IN PAF C-47, AT ALTITUDE APPROXIMATELY 6,000 FEET...INCLUDED AMONG PASSENGERS WERE DATT, ALUSNA, AND AARMA, THIS DAO. WHEN AIRCRAFT WAS APPROXIMATELY 7 MILES SOUTH OF MUEDA IT WAS STRUCK BY WHAT IS THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN A SAM-7 MISSILE...DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS AT MUEDA, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER ELECTED EMERGENCY LANDING AT NANCATARI.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 098287

4. ALL AIRCREW AND PASSENGERS EVACUATED AIRCRAFT

WITHOUT INJURY.

5. PAF OFFICIAL ADVISES THIS IS FIRST PAF AIRCRAFT
HIT BY MISSILE IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT THAT TWO RHODESIAN
"TROJAN" RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN DESTROYED
BY MISSILES-OVER MOZAMBIQUE TERRITORY-IN RECENT WEEKS.

6. AAIRA WAS SHOWN MESSAGE FROM PAF 3RD AIR REGION
COMMANDER TO PAF HEADQUARTERS. MESSAGE STATED
ATTACHES INVOLVED REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN AVOIDING
PUBLICITY. GENERAL MANUEL NETO, NEW PORTUGUESE AIR
FORCE COMMANDER HAS ORDERED TOTAL SECRECY IN PORTUGAL.
PAF ADVISES IT CANNOT GUARANTEE SUPPRESSION OF THE
STORY IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT PROMISES TO NOTIFY THIS DAO
IMMEDIATELY IF IT GAINS KNOWLEDGE OF NEWS LEAK ABROAD
SO FAMILIES OF ATTACHES CAN BE ADVISED. END QUOTE. RUSH

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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